RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 11th December, 1991/ 20, Agrahayana, 1913 (Saka)

The House met at Eleven of the clock, **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Construction of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital

*281. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foundation-stone of Dr. Baba Sahab Ambedkar Hospital has been laid at Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of services, with equipments, likely to be provided in this Hospital;

(c) what amount is likely to be spent on this project;

(d) what time schedule has been fixed for completion of the Hospital; and

(e) whether the proposed Hospital is likely to have sepaarte OPD blocks for CGHS beneficiaries living in North Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDARTHA): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The foundation stone of Dr. Baba Sahib Ambedkar Hospital was laid at Rohini in Delhi on 19th November, 1991, by the Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao.

The Hospital will provide out-patient, in patient and round the clock casualty services. The Hospital would have all the major specialities like Medicine, Surgery, Orthopaedics, Ophthamelogy, En.N.T., Paediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology along with supporting diagnostic facilities. Super-specialities departments for Burns and Plastic Surgery Neuro-Surgery and Cardiology etc. are also envisaged to be added.

The project is estimated to cost about Rs. 55 crores.

The Hospital is likely to take about four years for completion, but the OPD services are expected to commence at least a year earlier.

A separate OPD Block for C.G.H.S. beneficiaries is not contemplated. However, C.G.H.S. beneficiaries would also be eligible for treatment in this hospital.

SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Sir, first of all, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister that he had been successful in finalising a project which was needed by the people of Delhi for quite a long time. On 19th November which is the birthday of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, our Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, laid the foundation-stone of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital at Rohini in Delhi. It is not a coincidence, but I think our leaders might have thought that because both Mrs. Gandhi and Baba Saheb Ambedkar stood for the weaker sections of the society, it would be a befitting tribute to both of them to lay the fundation-stone of the hospital on that auspicious day. Sir, the 500-bed hospital will naturally cater to the needs of guite a big number of patients. The Minister has stated that the OPD services are expected to commence not in four years, but at least a year earlier. Through this question and with your permission I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the pathetic condition of the patients in some areas of Delhi. Sir, Delhi is an expanding city and if we see the surrendings of Delhi, people come in thousands and lakhs every day...(*Interruption*)...

डा० बापू कालदाते : सभापति जी, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि यह भाषण कर रहे हैं या क्वेश्चन कर रहे हैं (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is coming to the question.

SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Sir, I am coming to the question.

DR. BAPU KALDATE: Sir, how long will he take to raise the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, he is on the way.

(Interruptions)

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल कीजिये ।

SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: About 10 million people are living in the State and for them only six or seven Government hospitals are in the city and only 40 per cent needs of the sick people are being met by the Government hospitals and dispensatries...

MR. CHAIRMTN: What is your question?

SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: In such a situation I would like to know from the hon. Minister what he is going to do to cope with the needs of the patients in Delhi keeping in view the condition of a few hospitals which he himself visited recently. He went to the Safardarjung Hospital... *(Interruption)*....

MR. CHAIRMAN: What are you going to do about it? That's all. *(Interruptions)*· No, no; no bhashn.

SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: He said that the condition of the Safdarjung Hospital is just like a railway station. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how he is going to.... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will have to follow the practice of my predecessor who after two minutes passed on to another subject. He told me after two minutes. *(Interruptions)*...

AN HON. MEMBER: That is a good practice.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Both the supplementarits are over within five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is fog the future.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Member that he has asked questions about Delhi. It was our pious wish to commemorate the birth centenary of Baba Saheb Ambedkar who stood for social justice and who enshrined this principle in the Constitution of India. It was also our desire that it should coincide with Indiraji's birthday who also stood... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have done it.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: ...for social justice and for removing the economic disparities. About Delhi he has asked what else we are doing. This 500-bed hospital, for which we laid the foundation-stone, will provide not only specialities but it will be one of the ultra modern hospitals in Delhi. It will be a 500-bed hospital and we have kept provision for another 200 beds in the hosptal. After the hospital is completed we will try to expand it up to 750 beds. So far as medical care in the areas which are inadequately served is concerned, we have taken up some projects. For example, in Khichripur area a 100-bed hospial with all modern facilities will be provided and its OPD will be opened at any time during the current month and this hospital will be named after late Lal Bahadur Shastri. In Jahangirpuri area we are having another 100-bed hospital. That also will be a sort of modern hospital which will cater to the needs of the peripheral area of Delhi. That hospital will be name after late Babu Jagjivan Ram. In addition to these, we are having another four hospitals of 100-bed each in Delhi. During the Eighth Five Year Plan we propose to take up these projects and by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan we will be able to complete projects.

SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister about the CGHS. We have heard that after some time the CGHS dispensaries are not going to give medicines to common diseases. They have a proopsal, so far as

I know, that only chronic diseases will be taken care of by giving medicines and ordinary common diseases will not be taken care of by giving medicines. So my question is whether there is any proposal like this where the CGHS is going to cut giving medicines for common diseases.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: There is no proposal as such. In case the hon. Member has heard that any such order had been passed, I will review it. For all diseases the CGHS will provide medical aid to all those who are beneficiaries of the CGHS.

SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the earlier Janata Dal Government, despite shedding crocodile tears for Harijans and Baha Saheb Ambedkar, failed to pay due attention to this noble..*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your question, please. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Let me complete. I am asking the question. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: This is the question. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your question.

SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Sir, it was planned earlier to perpetuate the memory of our great leader and architect of the Indian Constitution, Dr. Baba Sheb Ambedkar. Whereas our beloved leader late Shri Rajiv Gandhi laid the foundation-stone of Ambedkar University in Lucknow attached with a Medical College it is a full-fledged Medical College our hon. Prime Minister has laid the foundation-stone of this hospital also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your question.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Sir, this is an irrelevant question. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SHIV PRTTAP MISHRA: Sir, I don't know why she is interrupting me.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Crocodile tears should be removed from the records.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: How can it be removed?

SHRI SHIV PRASAD MISHRA: I would like to know from the Minister what steps are now being taken to make up the lapse and delay in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How will you make up the further delay?

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: In addition to what we have done, we also propose to have 10 new nursing schools established in the country during the birth centenary year of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar. We will be starting the work during the current year. Special preference will be given to those who belong to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe communities and also to those who belong to the poorer and downtrodden sections of the society.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Sir, Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar's concern was with the poor and downtrodden people. Our difficulty with this most modern high-tech and high cost hospital is that the poor and lower middle class cannot afford its treatment as it is very costly. Sir, these hospitals should serve as referral hospitals. About 40 per cent population of Delhi is living in *Jhugis and Jhonpris* I want to ask the hon. Minister whether this hospital will run mobile medical units to reach the poor basties of the city, and screen and treat the cases and refer the serious deserving cases to the hospital so that large sections of the population of Delhi's poor people will be served by this hospitals.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: Sir, disease neither knows any religion nor any caste in society.

MR CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member wants to know whether you will provide free facilities to the poor people.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: I must tell the hon. Member that Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital, apart from specialised services, will have indoor services, it will have outdoor services as also round-the-clock emergency services. We are proposing to have super specialities also in this hospital mainly for the poor, down-trodden and those people who live in that area. It will cater to the necessity of medical aid to at least five lakh people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wanted to know about hte mobile vans.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: I don't think there is any need now to have any mobile van. But this will be a sort of referral hospital. He will have dispensaries in other areas of this hospital. It will also cater to their needs.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: I am very happy to know that the Government of India is establishing a hospital in memory of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar. This project costs Rs. 55 crores. I am also happy to know that they are going to start a most modern department in this hospital. So my question is; what is the number of beds that are going to be provided? Part 'b' of my question is whether the Government would consider appointing doctors from the down-trodden communities like the Scheduled Castes and Sheduled Tribes on priority. Part 'C' of my question is, as Baba Saheb Ambedkar and Mahatma Phule are inspiration to us especially in Maharashtra, I would like to proopse to the Government to start a medical college in the same hospital in memory of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Will the Government consider doing it?

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: Sir, I would like to inform the Member that it will be a 500-bed hospital. We also have a provision for expansion up to 750 beds. So far as appointment of doctors is concerned, I would not like to appoint lawyers as surgeons or a surgeon as a lawyer. Only a surgeon can be a good doctor and perform surgery. Hence preference will be given to proficiency. So far as 15 per cent quota for the Scheduled Castes and 7½ per cent for Scheduled Tribes is concerned, I will see that adequate steps are taken to implement this constitutional provision. This is our national commitment, our political commitment and our party commitment.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Sir, I am not asking that lawyers should be appointed as surgeons... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has answered that.

कुमारी सईदा खातून : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी के नाम पर जो हास्पीटल बनाया जा रहा है उसमें आपने जो लिस्ट दी है इसमें न्यूरो-सर्जरी के कार्डियालोजिस्ट सभी डिपार्टमेंट्स के आपने स्पेशलिस्ट्स को रखने की सहूलियत प्रदान की है, लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि इसमें कैंसर जैसे रोग के लिए या किडनी ट्रांसप्लांट के लिए भी कोई व्यवस्था आप इस हास्पीटल में करने जा रहे हैं ?

श्री एम० एल० फोतेदार : मैंने अपने जवाब में कहा कि It will cater to the various disciplines of medical sciences. उसका यह मतलब है कि सुपर स्पेशैलिटीज़ भी इस हास्पीटल में मुहैया रखी जायेंगी चाहे वह रीनल है, चाहे वह किडनी का है, और चाहे किसी और चीज़ का है । हम देखेंगे कि यह एक ऐसा हास्पीटल बने कि बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर का नाम ज़िंदा रहे और सरकार ने जो इसकी बुनियाद रखी है कि लोग भी महसूस करें कि उनका नाम अमर है ।

श्री सभापति : इनका सवाल कैंसर का है !

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: Sir, there will be provision for all the super specialities.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is very simple. Will there be provision for cancer treatment or not?

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: All the super specialities will be provided... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you consider cancer treatment as a super speciality? .. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: Yes, Sir.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: The medical facilities that are being provided by the Government hospitals to the 90 lakh population of Delhi are grossly inadequate. A good part of this burden is being shared by the private doctors... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sibtey Razi has already put all these questions. Now come to your question.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Sir, I welcome the 500 beds that are being added by the hospital. The already existing 15000 beds which are being provided by the private doctors who are being harassed every day by the DDA. They say that this activity is not permissible in the residential areas. Sir, while the national objective clearly states that the medi-care facilities should be available at the door-step, I wish to know from the hon. Minister what he is going to do to ensure that the doctors providing the much needed medi-care facilities to the citizens of Delhi in the residential areas are safe from the harassment of the DDA. Part 'b' of my question is...*(Interruptions)*...Sir, there is a Delhi Nursing Home Act, 1953. This Act is proposed to be amended. I had even sent a letter to the Minister in this connection. As a result of this proposed amendment, even the family welfare programme is going to bt affected adversely because the DDA is the house building society. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to how they want to protect the health care facilities from the DDA.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: Sir, the question pertains...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He only wants to know whether you will recommend to the DDA that these private nursing homes and others are excluded from their purview. They are permitted...

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: He has asked a question. I do not want that the facts are misrepresented in the Parliament. I would like to state the facts as they are and then comment and reply to his question. The point is that this does not pertain to the hospital. It pertains to the private nursing homes. It has nothing to do with the poor and the downtrodden. It has to do with the elitist class of society. The question is quite the reverse. He has asked a question. It should be replied...*(Interruptions)* I cannot say whether it is relevant. I am ready to reply to any question between earth and sky pertaining to health in Delhi. I must tell the hon. Member that there are many private nursing homes in Delhi. Some are registered and some are unregistered. After I joined the Ministry, I took note of this that many unregistered private nursing homes are there. The provision is that when we give any customs exemption or any excise exemption to any private nursing home, under the law, he has to have 10 per cent in door patients free of cost and those patients will be poor patients and in the OPD, 40 per cent patients have to be treated free of cost. I have taken a decision to ensure that this decision of the Government is implemented and the patients do not have to be referred by the hospital authorities of the private nursing homes but by the Government hospital authorities.

Secondly, so far as the private nursing homes are concerned, it is not a question of the DDA. People do not want a hospital in their vicnity. They want it away from their residential quarters. We are taking up the matter with the DDA. I would like to tell the hon. Member that the private nursing homes should come up in Delhi. They must come up in a planned way. It should not be a mushroom growth of private nursing homes in Delhi. They will have to register before the authorities and get the licence for that.